

Remarks

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 44-66 are pending in the application. No claims have been allowed. Claims 44, 56, 57, 65, and 66 are independent.

Cited Art

U.S. Patent No. 5,499,334 to Staab ("Staab") is entitled "Method and System for Displaying Window Configuration of Inactive Programs."

U.S. Patent No. 6,237,030 to Adams et al. ("Adams") is entitled "Method for Extracting Hyperlinks from a Display Document and Automatically Retrieving and Displaying Multiple Subordinate Documents of the Display Document."

U.S. Patent No. 6,252,594 to Xia et al. ("Xia") is entitled "Method and System for Aiding a User in Scrolling Through a Document Using Animation, Voice Cues and a Dockable Scroll Bar."

U.S. Patent No. 6,344,865 to Matthews et al. ("Matthews") is entitled "User Friendly Remote System Interface with Menu Scrolling."

Patentability of Claims 44-66 over Adams, Xia, and others under § 103

The Action rejects claims 44-46, 51-52, 54-59, and 63-65 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Adams in view of Xia. The Action also rejects claims 47, 49-50, 60-62, and 66 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Adams in view of Xia and further in view of Staab. The Action rejects claims 48 and 53 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Adams in view of Xia and further in view of Matthews.

Applicants respectfully submit the claims in their present form are allowable over the cited art. To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. (MPEP § 2142.)

Claim 44

Independent claim 44 recites in part:

retrieving display configuration settings for the plurality of stored network addresses of the web pages, wherein the display configuration settings are associated with at least one of the plurality of web page addresses and wherein the display configuration settings are configured to indicate at least one scroll position for at least one of the web pages indicated by the stored network addresses;

For example, the Application describes at page 19, lines 27-30:

Furthermore, the specific positions within those web pages, as determined by the configurations settings (e.g., the position of the scroll bars 256 and 262), are also recalled such that the user terminal 110 automatically navigates to the precise location within each web page.

Adams and Xia, individually and collectively, fail to teach or suggest both “retrieving display configuration settings for the plurality of stored network addresses of the web pages” and “wherein the display configuration settings are configured to indicate at least one scroll position for at least one of the web pages.” According to MPEP 706.02(j), the prior art references must “teach or suggest all the claim limitations.” This requirement is not met, and, therefore, claim 44 should be allowed.

The section of Adams cited in the Action does not disclose “display configuration settings,” but instead shows only graphical menus. The Action sites to Figure 5 of Adams for the proposition that the language of claim 44 recited above is disclosed. On pages 3 and 4, the Action states:

[T]he system retrieves the configuration settings made by the selections to the controlled menu bar on the top of fig. 5, i.e. *File, Edit, View, ... Options.* [italics in original]

While Figure 5 does display a number of menu items, neither Figure 5, nor any other figure, shows the contents of any menu item other than “Bookmarks,” which shows only bookmarked web addresses and tools for using these addresses. No configuration settings, let alone “display configuration settings,” are illustrated. Thus, the figures of Adams do not describe any sort of “display configuration settings” as recited in claim 44.

Further, because Adams discusses modification of a display without discussing the ability to save these modifications, Adams does not appear to disclose “display configuration settings”

elsewhere. At column 11, lines 52-64, Adams discloses “minimize and maximize features [which] allow[] a user to expand and shrink the area in which retrieved web pages are displayed. Additionally, at column 12, lines 15-17, Adams discloses a process wherein “the user is then allowed to alter the screen size of the displayed sub windows containing web pages. The process then ends as depicted at block 210.” While both of these sections describe modifying items on a display, there is no indication given that any settings could be made with regard to the modifications; in the process described in column 12, the process ends before such a setting could be made. As such, Adams further does not appear to disclose any sort of “display configuration settings” as recited in claim 44.

The section of Xia cited to in the Action does not describe “the display configuration settings are configured to indicate at least one scroll position for at least one of the web pages” as recited by claim 44, but instead describes the position of an entire scrolling control, without regard to navigation of a web page. As described above, the Application gives an example at page 19, lines 27-30:

Furthermore, the specific positions within those web pages, as determined by the configuration settings (e.g., the position of the scroll bars 256 and 262), are also recalled such that the user terminal 110 automatically navigates to the precise location within each web page.

While the passage of Xia cited in the Action (column 9, lines 18-20) states that “in a preferred embodiment the position of the scroll bar is saved to be used when reopening the document,” passages of Xia demonstrate that the term “scroll bar” as defined by Xia is not the same as the “at least one scroll position” recited in claim 44.

Xia describes the composition of the “scroll bar” at column 6, lines 25-27:

The scroll bar 260 includes up and down scroll arrows 262 and 264, respectively, a scroll box 266, and a scroll shaft 268.

Xia goes on, at column 6, lines 40-47, to describe that the position of the “scroll box,” not the “scroll bar,” determines the location within a web page:

[T]he location of the scroll box 266 in the scroll shaft 268 may indicate the fraction of the document left to be scrolled through. Thus, when the scroll box 266 is near the up arrow 262, a first portion of the document is being displayed. When the scroll box 266 is near the down arrow 264, a later portion of the document is being displayed.

In contrast, Xia describes the position of the “scroll bar,” as well as saving the position, in a process described at column 5, lines 53-57:

The scroll bar is then moved to a particular position in the window, via step 208. In a preferred embodiment, the particular position is based on a default position or a previous position selected the last time the user viewed a document in the window.

Then, at column 6, lines 34-41, the results of that process step are explained:

FIGS. 5B and 5C depict embodiments of the window 250 after step 208 has been completed. As depicted in FIG. 5B, the scroll bar 260 has moved to the right edge of the window 250. The window 250 may be preferred by right-handed users. As depicted in FIG. 5C, the scroll bar 260 has moved to the left edge of the window 250. For example, a user may have docked the scroll bar 260 at the left edge of the window 250 in step 210 of the method 200. The window 250 may be preferred by left-handed users.

Figures 5B and 5C illustrate the difference by showing windows that differ only in respect to where the “scroll bar” is within the window. In fact, the figures are able to show a difference in “scroll bar” position without illustrating a web page, which demonstrates further that the position of the “scroll bar” does not affect navigation of a web page. Thus, the position of the “scroll bar” as described by Xia, describes the position of the bar within a window and does not describe the “scrolling position” recited in claim 44.

For at least these reasons, claim 44, its dependent claims 45-55, and similarly worded independent claim 56 are allowable over Adams and Xia. Further, Applicants do not find additional relevant disclosure in Staab or Matthews. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of these claims.

Claim 57

Claim 57 recites in part:

storing, as associated with the title, the respective network addresses and display configuration settings indicating the user-selected portion of the at least one of the web pages

The Action cites to the same passages of Adams and Xia used in the rejection of claim 44 for the proposition that “display configuration settings indicating the user-selected portion of the at least one of the web pages” is taught or suggested by the combination of Adams and Xia. For similar reasons to those discussed above with respect to claim 44, Applicants respectfully suggest that

the requirement of MPEP 706.02(j) is not met, and, therefore, claim 44 should be allowed. Thus, claim 57, its dependent claims 58-64, and similarly-worded independent claims 65 and 66 are allowable over Adams and Xia. Further, Applicants do not find additional relevant disclosure in Staab or Matthews. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of these claims.

Request For Interview

If any issues remain, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of the next Office Action in order to arrange a telephonic interview. It is believed that a brief discussion of the merits of the present application may expedite prosecution. Applicants submit the foregoing formal Amendment so that the Examiner may fully evaluate Applicants' position, thereby enabling the interview to be more focused.

This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request..

Conclusion

Claims 44-66 should be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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